1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS 2 3 LESLIE BELL, Case No. Plaintiff, 4 PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR 5 V. (Telephone Consumer Protection Act) CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A., 6 Defendant. 7 8 9 **COMPLAINT** 10 11 LESLIE BELL ("Plaintiff"), by and through her attorneys, alleges the following against 12 CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A. ("Defendant"): 13 1. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself individually seeking damages and any other 14 available legal or equitable remedies resulting from the illegal actions of Defendant, in 15 negligently, knowingly, and/or willfully contacting Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular 16 telephone in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (hereinafter "TCPA"), 17 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., and the Texas Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (hereinafter 18 "TFDCPA"), Tex. Fin. Code § 392.001 et. seq. 19 JURISDICTION AND VENUE 20 2. Defendant conducts business in the state of Texas, and therefore, personal jurisdiction is 21 22 established. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1391(b)(2). 23 3. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(3). See, 24 Mims v. Arrow Financial Services, LLC, 565 U.S. 368 (2012), holding that federal and 25 state courts have concurrent jurisdiction over private suits arising under the TCPA and 28 - 1 -

- 12. Defendant used an "automatic telephone dialing system", as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(1) to place its telephone calls to Plaintiff seeking to collect a consumer debt allegedly owed by Plaintiff, LESLIE BELL.
- 13. Defendant's calls did not constitute calls for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 14. Defendant's calls were placed to a telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service for which Plaintiff incurs a charge for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).
- 15. Defendant never received Plaintiff's "prior express consent" to receive calls using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice on her cellular telephone pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 16. On January 2, 2018 Plaintiff called into Defendant's company at phone number (800) 955-6600. Plaintiff spoke with Defendant's female representative and requested that Defendant cease calling Plaintiff's cellular phone.
- 17. During the conversation, Plaintiff gave her social security number and date of birth to assist Defendant's representative in accessing her account before asking Defendant to stop calling her cell phone.
- 18. Plaintiff revoked any consent, explicit, implied, or otherwise, to call her cellular telephone and/or to receive Defendant's calls using an automatic telephone dialing system in her conversation with Defendant's representative on January 2, 2018.
- 19. Despite Plaintiff's requests to cease, Defendant continued to place collection calls to Plaintiff after January 2, 2018.

cell phone.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 47 U.S.C. § 227

- 21. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-20.
- 22. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple negligent violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.
- 23. As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., Plaintiff is entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(3)(B).
- 24. Plaintiff is also entitled to seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION KNOWING AND/OR WILLFUL VIOLATIONS OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 47 U.S.C. § 227 et. seq.

- 25. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-20.
- 26. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.

- 27. As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., Plaintiff is entitled an award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).
- 28. Plaintiff is also entitled to seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE TFDCPA TEX. FIN. CODE § 392.001 et. seq.

- 29. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-20.
- 30. Defendant violated the Texas Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Tex. Fin. Code § 392.302(4). Defendant's violations of TFDCPA include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Defendant violated TFDCPA, Tex. Fin. Code § 392.302(4) by causing Plaintiff's telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously and making repeated or continuous telephone calls, with the intent to harass Plaintiff at the called number.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, LESLIE BELL, respectfully requests judgment be entered against Defendant, CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A., for the following:

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 29. For statutory damages of \$500.00 multiplied by the number of TCPA violations alleged herein (137): \$68,500.00.
- 30. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial;

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 31. For statutory damages of multiplied by the number of TCPA violations alleged herein (137): \$205,500.00;
- 32. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial;

1	THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION
2	33. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the Texas Fair Debt Collection
3	Practices Act;
4	34. Statutory damages of \$100.00;
5	35. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial.
6	36. Litigation costs and reasonably billed attorney's fees after a trial on the merits.
7	ON ALL CAUSES OF ACTION
8	37. Actual damages and compensatory damages according to proof at time of trial;
9	38. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees;
10	39. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.
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12	JURY TRIAL DEMAND
13	40. Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all issues so triable.
14	DECDECTELL LV CLIDALTED
15	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
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17	Dated: August 2, 2018 By: <u>/s/ Peter Cozmyk</u> Peter Cozmyk
18	Attorney for Plaintiff COZMYK LAW OFFICES, LLC
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